

[HOME](#) [ABOUT RANDY](#) [SERVING YOU](#) [NEWSROOM](#) [OUR DISTRICT](#) [CONTACT](#)

In this issue:

- Boosting Employee Investment and Take-Home Pay
- Protecting Your Personal Information
- Stopping Iran's Terrorism Funding
- Learning from Community College Presidents
- Stop Skyrocketing Health Costs
- Freedom Isn't Free
- Randy in the News

Boosting Employee Investment and Take-Home Pay

Workers who own a stake in the business they pour their blood, sweat and tears into every day have an interest in seeing that business succeed. And it's best for businesses when their success is tied to the hard work and investment of their employees.

That's why I supported House passage of **H.R. 5719, the Empowering Employees through Stock Ownership Act**, a bill I cosponsored which would allow employees to defer taxes on income they make from stock they are given by their employers. This would encourage employee ownership, and personal and financial investment in these businesses. This tax incentive would also increase employee take-home pay by allowing them to get a higher return on their investment.

My own employee ownership bill, the [Encouraging Employee Ownership Act](#), passed the House as part of the Capital Markets Improvement Act earlier this year. Similarly, the bill opens up more opportunities for employees to share a stake in the companies that employ them.

Protecting Your Personal Information



Increasing reports of Americans suffering from identify theft demonstrate the vulnerability of our personal information. [Click here to read my Letter to the Editor in the Joliet Herald-News on why my bill](#), the **Homeowner Information Privacy Protection Act, H.R. 4993**, will improve the financial security of Americans.

Stopping Iran's Terrorism Funding



Iran's state sponsorship of terrorism is well-known. Many of you have told me you are opposed to the administration's cash payments to Iran in exchange for American prisoners. Unfortunately, many of Iran's own citizens, and many who do business with Iran, are unaware of the corruption at the highest levels of the Iranian regime to fund terror.

The House passed two bills to address these problems. It's time for the administration to wake up and sign them into law to prevent further diplomatic mishaps:

- The **Leadership Asset Transparency Act, H.R. 5461**, would expose online the assets of top leaders—like the Supreme Leader of Iran, Ali Khamenei, the President of Iran, Hassan Rouhani, and the Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari—ensuring the U.S. and Iranian public knows where the leaders got their money, and where it goes. [Click here to learn more about the bill.](#)
- The **Prohibiting Future Ransom Payments to Iran Act, H.R. 5931**, prohibits all future cash payments to Iran—period.

Learning from Community College Presidents

The seven community colleges that service the 14th Congressional District provide vital education and training to our communities. This week, I convened the presidents that sit on my Higher Education Advisory Committee (HEAC) to discuss important issues in higher education including reauthorization legislation, career and technical education, the Department of Labor's new overtime rule and student loan debt.



(Gabbard, Borowicz, Hultgren, Sam, Sobek, Rondeau, Mitchell)

We tackled other issues such as transparency in student loans, regulation compliance requirements for managing federal student aid, promoting workforce development and career readiness and meeting the needs of a diverse and changing student population.

Attendees included:

- Dr. Laurie Borowicz, President, Kishwaukee College
- Dr. Judy Mitchell, President, Joliet Junior College
- Dr. Ann Rondeau, President, College of DuPage
- Dr. David Sam, President, Elgin Community College
- Dr. Clinton Gabbard, President, McHenry County College
- Dr. Christine Sobek, President, Waubonsee Community College
- College of Lake County President Dr. Jerry Weber was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict but sent senior representation to attend.

I was proud to recognize Waubonsee's 50 years of service to northern Illinois on the House floor:



(Click picture for video)

Stop Skyrocketing Health Costs

Health insurance costs are skyrocketing next year for many in Illinois. Before the ACA was signed into law, Americans could find some relief in their ability to deduct high-cost, out-of-pocket medical expenses on their taxes. But the ACA made it more difficult to do this, raising costs on seniors and American families.

I voted with the House to pass **H.R. 3590, the Halt Tax Increases on the Middle Class and Seniors Act**, to reverse the ACA's policy and protect American consumers from yet another ACA tax hike.

In the wake of the high rates for Illinois residents next year, I have called for immediate action my own alternative to give states flexibility to help keep costs low and opt-out of the more burdensome mandates of the ACA. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Freedom Isn't Free

This September, we remember heroes like Illinois' own Todd Beamer and Commander Dan Shanower who lost their lives 15 years ago on 9/11. I [joined Members of the House to remember the fallen and sing God Bless America on the Capitol steps](#) as my predecessors did that September morning.

I also recorded the following message from the 9/11 Flight 93 memorial plaque at the U.S. Capitol:



(Click picture to view Facebook video)

In Your Service,

*Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress
14th District, Illinois*

Randy in the News

- [How Do You Solve a Problem Like Addiction?](#) (Oswego Patch)
- [Improving financial transparency with machine-readable documents](#) (Federal News Radio)
- [Letter: Americans deserve to have private, personal information secured](#) (Joliet Herald-News)
- [Local government officials meet to discuss ways to combat heroin use](#) (Kendall County Now)
- [U.S. House Representative Hultgren Serves Customers at Casey's General Store in Plano](#) (Aurora Herald)

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